



7/26/99 Crushed

A sawmill filer was caught between hydraulic rollers.

The 40-year-old, mother of three, was a master filer who had been changing saw blades on a chipper saw. The victim was caught and crushed by the rollers. The victim had worked in the wood products industry for over 20 years, but was new to this company. This was the first time the worker had changed the blades alone. The victim thought that the equipment had been locked out, and coworkers in the area were unaware the victim was working in the area and reactivated the machine. When the victim entered the machine to perform maintenance, the laser eye that activates the equipment was crossed, causing the chipper heads to close, crushing the worker.

Questions to ask?

- Do you have an energy control (Lockout/Tagout) program?
- Are all authorized users trained and equipped with the appropriate Lockout/Tagout equipment?
- Are all affected workers aware of and trained in the Lockout/Tagout program?
- Do you enforce its use? Do you perform an annual review of your program?